

## Amendments to the Claims:

### Listing of claims:

Claim 1 (previously presented): A method for obtaining transgenic plants having an increased capacity to synthesize, to accumulate and to exude organic acids, by integration into their genome of a recombinant heterologous DNA molecule encoding enzymes that synthesize organic acids, involving the following steps:

- a. preparation of a recombinant heterologous DNA molecule encoding one or more genes for enzymes that synthesize organic acids, linked to a promoter sequence functional in plants, and to a transcription termination/polyadenylation sequence functional in plants, wherein the recombinant DNA molecule comprises a gene that codes for an enzyme selected from the group consisting of citrate synthase, a gene of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* that codes for citrate synthase, and malate dehydrogenase;
- b. the transformation of plant cells with the recombinant DNA molecule, and
- c. the regeneration of transgenic plants starting from transformed cells, or of seeds from plants obtained from these transformed cells, for one or several generations, wherein the genetic information of these transformed cells includes the recombinant DNA molecule coding for enzymes that synthesize organic acids.

Claims 2-16 (canceled)

Claim 17 (previously presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein the transcription termination sequence is the transcription termination sequence of the Nopaline Synthetase gene.

Claims 18-26 (canceled)

Claim 27 (previously presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein the promoter is a constitutive promoter.

Claims 28-31 (canceled)

Claim 32 (original): The method according to claim 1, wherein the promoter is a root-specific promoter.

Claims 33-36 (canceled)

Claim 37 (previously amended): The method according to claim 1, wherein the promoter is a root-specific promoter.

Claims 38-46 (canceled)

Claim 47 (previously presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein the promoter is a promoter inducible by stress caused by low phosphate availability.

Claims 48-56 (canceled)

Claim 57 (previously presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein the promoter is a promoter inducible by stress caused by low iron availability.

Claims 58-66 (canceled)

Claim 67 (previously presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein the promoter is the 35S promoter of the cauliflower mosaic virus.

Claims 68-73 (canceled)

Claim 74 (canceled, non-elected).

Claims 75-79 (canceled).

Claim 80 (canceled, non-elected).

Claims 81-90 (canceled).

Claim 91 (canceled, non-elected).

Claim 92 (canceled).

Claim 93 (canceled, non-elected).

Claims 94-97 (canceled).

Claim 98 (canceled, non-elected).

Claim 99 (canceled, non-elected).

Claims 100-102 (canceled).

Claim 103 (canceled, non-elected).

Claim 104 (canceled, non-elected).

Claim 105 (canceled, non-elected).

Claim 106 (canceled, non-elected).

Claim 107 (canceled, non-elected).

Claims 108-126 (canceled).

Claim 127 (canceled, non-elected).

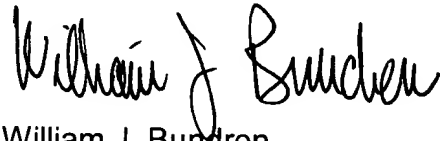
Claim 128 (canceled, non-elected).

Claim 129 (canceled, non-elected).

Claims 130-138 (canceled).

Applicants, through their undersigned attorney, respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William J. Bundren". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "William" and last name "Bundren" clearly distinguishable.

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